

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9412

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL AUCKLAND

UNCLAS WELLINGTON 0864

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD, NZ

SUBJ: 1975-76 IMPORT LICENSING SCHEDULE

1. IN MEETING WITH ECON/COMM COUNSELOR AND COMM ATTACHE TO DISCUSS NEW IMPORT LICENSING SCHEDULE, ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR INDUSTRIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY, P J MCKONE REVEALED THAT THE GENERAL LEVEL OF THE VALUE FOR MOST LICENSED IMPORTS UNDER THE IMPORT LICENSING SCHEDULE FOR THE 1975-76 LICENSING PERIOD WILL BE 100 PERCENT OF THE 1974-75 LICENSING PERIOD. THIS WILL REPRESENT A DROP OF ABOUT 15 PERCENT IN ACTUAL VOLUME OF IMPORTS BELOW THE 1974-75 LEVEL. MR. MCKONE EXPLAINED THAT IN CERTAIN CASES OF HIGH STOCKS OR INCREASED DOMESTIC PRODUCTION, THE VALUE OF BASIC LICENSES OF CERTAIN ITEMS HAS BEEN REDUCED, TO 75 PERCENT OF THE 1974-75 PERIOD AND IN ONE CASE 50 PERCENT.

2. ACCORDING TO MCKONE THE SERIOUS THREAT THAT UNCERTAINTY AND PROBLEMS IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE POSE FOR NEW ZEALAND IS THE REASON FOR RESTRAINING IMPORTS.

3. APPLICATION FOR NON-QUALIFYING LICENSES ABOVE BASIC ENTITLEMENT FOR THE 75-76 PERIOD WILL BE CONSIDERED ON THE INDIVIDUAL MERITS BASED ON NEED, AND NOT, AS IN THE PAST, ON THE BASIC ALLOCATION OF THE PRIOR PERIOD.

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4. NO PROVISION HAS BEEN MADE FOR FURTHER EXEMPTIONS

FROM IMPORT LICENSING.

5. THE NEW LICENSING SCHEDULE IS SET TO COMPLEMENT THE OVERALL POLICY OF GNZ OF MAINTAINING FULL EMPLOYMENT, A REASONABLE INTERNAL DEMAND LEVEL AND ECONOMIC GROWTH WITHOUT EXACERBATING FURTHER SERIOUS BALANCE OF PAYMENTS SITUATION.

6. ITEM CODES WHICH WILL HAVE BASIC ALLOCATIONS REDUCED TO 75 PERCENT OF THE 1974-75 LEVEL ARE AS FOLLOWS (ALL ITEMS ARE "C" CATEGORY, I.E. WITH LICENSE APPLICATIONS TO BE CONSIDERED INDIVIDUALLY):

ITEM CODE	DESCRIPTION
38.135	INSECTICIDES, FUNGICIDES, ETC.
40.130	TYRES AND TUBES
50.225	HEAVY WEIGHT SYNTETIC FABRICS
50.425	HOUSEHOLD LINEN, ETC.
68.115	GRINDING WHEELS
69.134	CROCKERY
69.137	OTHER CERAMIC WARES
70.160	HEAT RESISTANT GLASSWARE; OTHER TABLE GLASSWARE
85.225	ELECTRIC LIGHTING GLASSWARE ETC.
97.115	DOLLS, ETC.

7. ITEM CODE 97.116, MODEL TOYS WILL HAVE ITS BASIC ALLOCATION REDUCED TO 50 PERCENT OF 1974 LICENSES (THIS ITEM WAS FORMERLY A PART OF 97.115).

8. ITEM CODES WHICH WILL CHANGE TO "C" ALLOCATION CATEGORY ARE:

ITEM CODE	DESCRIPTION
39.155) 39.160)	PLASTIC SHEETING
40.155) 42.105)	RUBBER AND LEATHER BELTING
50.330)	COATED OR LAMINATED TEXTILE FABRICS

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50.340)

50.410	KNITTED FABRICS UNDER 18 IN. IN WIDTH
73.170	TUBES AND PIPES OF COPPER
73.420	CUTLERY
73.465	CHAINS OF IRON OR STEEL

ALL OF THE ABOVE ITEM CODES (EXCEPT ITEM CODE 50.410) WERE IN THE BASIC ALLOCATION CATEGORY IN THE 1974-75 PERIOD. ITEM CODE 50.410 WAS FORMERLY IN "C" CATEGORY WITH BASIC LICENSE ALLOCATIONS.

9. WINE ITEMS - ITEM CODE 22.110, 22.115 AND 22.120 WILL HAVE THE BASIC ALLOCATIONS OF 100 PERCENT OF 1974-75 IMPORTS BUT IMPORT TARRIFS FOR WINES VALUED UP TO NZ DOLS 1.65 PER LITER, FOB- (CHEAPER GRADE WINDES) - WILL BE INCREASED TO PROTECT LOCAL WINE INDUSTRY. DUTIES ON HIGHER PRICED WINES WILL BE RELATIVELY LESS.

10. THE FOLLOWING NEW ITEM CODES HAVE BEEN CREATED:

ITEM CODE	DESCRIPTION
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70.156	HANDBLOWN TABLE, ETC. GLASSWARE (EX I.C. 70.155)
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73.134	HIGH CARBON WIRE (EX I.C. 73.135) - "C" ALLOCATION.
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11. INITIAL LICENSES FOR COMPLETELY KNOCKED DOWN (CKD) CARS WILL BE AUTHORIZED TO TWO-THIRDS OF THE VALUE SOLD FROM JULY 1974 TO MARCH 1975, THEN ADDITIONAL LICENSES WILL BE ISSUED ON A REPLACEMENT (AS MADE AND SOLD) BASIS. EXCEPT FOR A VERY SMALL (3 PER CENT) AUTHORIZATION FOR NEW MODELS, NO LICENSES FOR BUILT-UP CARS WILL BE ISSUED OF TYPES ASSEMBLED IN NZ. LICENSES FOR BUILT-UP CAR TYPES NOT ASSEMBLED IN NZ WILL BE 50 PERCENT OF LAST YEAR'S ALLOCATION. NZ MARKET FOR VEHICLES THIS COMING YEAR IS CALCULATED TO BE 65,000-70,000.

12. COPIES OF 1975-76 IMPORT LICENSING SCHEDULE ARE BEING SENT IN NEXT POUCH.

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